

OPEN SPACE TASK FORCE
MARCH 2, 2006

OPEN SPACE BOND
TASK FORCE MEETING
MARCH 2, 2006

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Chair Fred Segal, Vice-Chair Linda Greck and task force members Julie Aitken, Mike Bartlett, George Greb, and Marie Kaplan.

Also in attendance from the Town were Phil Holste and Michael Mungal.

2. OLD BUSINESS

2.1 OPEN SPACE BOND CRITERIA DRAFT RESOLUTION

Mr. Holste advised that he had spoken with Town Clerk Muniz who advised that the task force could include a requirement in the document that all land purchases had to go through public hearings with the Town Council. Ms. Aitken referred to item 5.02, and wanted language referring to land inventory to be broken down by Town Councilmember districts. Mr. Holste advised this could be done.

Mr. Holste advised that Don Burgess had recommended seeking an independent legal counsel for the bond, and asked whether the task force wanted to consider this. Mr. Burgess explained that outside counsel would provide an advantage, as the referendum language did not cover every permutation of what could happen during acquisitions. Ms. Greck agreed that an objective outside opinion would be valuable. Mr. Greb spoke of the need to factor in the costs of outside counsel.

Mr. Holste explained the funding process for different sites in the Town. Ms. Greck felt staff could handle the project and was already headed in the right direction.

Ms. Aitken wanted some money for improvements on existing parks. Mr. Greb recommended allocating a percentage of funds toward infrastructure to avoid all the money going toward acquisition.

Ms. Greck requested a review of the document by sections to make changes.

SECTION 5.

Ms. Greck referred to **Section 5**, lines 16-17, on page 6, and requested to include the words "And Process" into the Section title. The task force agreed with this change.

SECTION 6.

Ms. Greck referred to **Section 6.02: Selection of Park Improvements** and recommended deleting from lines 2-6, "reviewed.....properties." The task force agreed.

Mr. Holste made the appropriate changes via PowerPoint.

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Ms. Greck referred to **Section 6.02: *Selection of Park Improvements*** and corrected language as follows: "The selection of funding for improvement of existing properties will be consistent with the approved master site plans. Prioritization of properties for funding should additionally consider the requirements of grant funding agencies (Florida Communities Trust, Broward County Bond program) for those properties subject to such funding to ensure compliance with property improvement timeframes."

Scott Spages, 3144 Peachtree Circle, referred to **Section 6.01** and felt it would be a mistake to eliminate any items in the 5-year capital plan as many of those projects were budgeted but never produced. In response, Mr. Segal recommended inserting the word "funded" in line 14.

Mr. Holste made the appropriate changes via PowerPoint.

SECTION 7.

Ms. Aitken suggested using the language under subsection **7.01: Open Space**, followed by subsections a, b, c....as appropriate.

Ms. Greck suggested adding "Open Space" to the main Section 7 heading.

Mr. Burgess suggested deleting **Section 7.03: *Park Lands*** altogether. The task force agreed.

The task force further adjusted the document as follows: **Section 7.02** would refer to the paragraph on *Protection of Water Bodies* and **Section 7.03** would refer to the paragraph on *Agricultural Lands*.

Mr. Spages suggested deleting **Section 7.05** which he felt was not in the spirit of the Bond. After brief discussion, the task force corrected line 18 to begin, "Conservation easements on agricultural lands acquired...."

Mr. Holste made the appropriate changes via PowerPoint.

SECTION 8.

Mr. Segal referred to **Section 8.01 (b)** and requested changing the words "public access" to "accessibility". The task force agreed

Mr. Holste made the appropriate changes via PowerPoint.

Ms. Greck stated she was strongly opposed to specifying a particular property within the document such as language referring to the dog park. Mr. Holste stated this was already reflected in the Capital Improvements Projects. Mr. Greb agreed that the dog park should not be named in the document.

Mr. Holste suggested deleting the word "recreational" from section (b). The task force agreed.

Mr. Spages referred to **Section 8.01 (c)** "appropriating \$3 million for the completion of the recreational trail system" and felt this figure was intimidating. He

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also asked if there was a master plan for completion of the trail system. Mr. Greb responded affirmatively.

The task force decided to have **Sections 8.01 (a) and (b)** separated into existing properties and new acquisitions.

Mr. Segal referred to **Section 8.01 (e)** and recommended inserting the words "by acquisition."

Mr. Greb referred to **Section 8.01 (e)** and recommended deleting the 3 bullet point subsections. The task force agreed.

Ms. Greck recommended combining the third and fourth clauses in **Section 8.03**. The task force agreed.

Mr. Holste made all the appropriate changes recommended above via PowerPoint.

Mr. Burgess suggested that the task force conduct a further review of the definitions in the document.

3. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Mr. Segal wanted the task force to discuss the selection of bond counsel at the next meeting along with fleshing out the criteria further.

Mr. Holste advised the next meeting and subsequent meetings would be held at Robbins Lodge. He reminded the task force that the public hearing was scheduled for later that month and asked for a decision on how many hearings would be held.

Mr. Segal suggested scheduling the first public hearing for Thursday, March 23.

ACTION: Mr. Bartlett made a motion, seconded by Ms. Aitken, to hold the public hearing on Thursday, March 23 in the Community Room at the police station. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion carried 6-0)

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Aitken made a motion, seconded by Ms. Greck, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion passed 6-0)

Approved

Chairperson/Committee Member